

Three stops



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Maya, Tangalle, Sri Lanka



SITUATED IN A VERDANT village just outside the fishing town of Tangalle, 20 minutes from Sri Lanka's sun-kissed south coast, Maya is the pinnacle of boutique luxury. Situated in two acres of tropical gardens – look out for the resident peacock when you arrive – the resort is peaceful, picturesque, and absurdly relaxed. And with just five suites, it's also about as intimate as it gets. The attention to detail is exquisite: owner and interior designer Niki Fairchild has filled the place with antiques and curios from her travels around Asia, such as art-deco chairs and gold Buddha busts. Service is fervently discreet. Staff stay behind the scenes, appearing only to ask what and when you'd like to eat, and to offer a welcome refresher. Our tip: take a trip to the super-luxe Amanwella resort and spend the day on its coconut-palm-fringed beach, lunching by the lapping waves.

WOW FACTOR The food. Bespoke menus are created according to what's on offer at the market; you won't find a better Sri Lankan curry on the island.

GO Ampersand Travel (ampersandtravel.com) offers seven nights from £1,250 per person, B&B. Includes UK flights and transfers.

